CRICKHOWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIB

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1962

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CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Chairman of the Council	-	Councillor Rev. J.M. Evans, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor Miss M.A. Haywood.
Chairman of the Public Health & General Purposes Committee	-	Councillor Miss M.A. Haywood.
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor T.M. Lewis.

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCILLORS.	PARISH.
The Rev. J.M. Evans.	Llangenny.
Col. P. Fisher, J.P.	Llangenny.
Miss M.A. Haywood.	Crickhowell.
Sir George Kitson.	Crickhowell.
J. Mills Price.	Cwmdu.
O.H. Williams, J.P. (deceased)	Cwmdu.
Mrs. B.L. Greet.	Cwmdu.
B. Rees.	Llangattock.
W. Gittoes.	Llangattock.
E. Davies.	Llanbedr.
T.M. Lewis.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
G. Morgan.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward)
H.J. McIntosh.	Llanelly. (Clydach Ward)
D.W. Bevan.	Llanelly. (Darenfelen Ward)
C.S. Farr.	Llangynidr.
F.E. Parry.	Llangynidr.
Col. C.E. Beckwith.	Partrishow.

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To: The Chairman and Members of the
Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the district, the health of the people and the work of the Public Health Department, during the year 1962.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also, the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

CREIGHTON E. EDWARDS.
B.Sc.,M.B.,B.Ch.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1962.

Medical Officer of Health	-	C.E. Edwards, B.Sc.,M.B.,B.Ch.,D.P.H.
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector	-	R.A. Jackson,M.A.P.H.I.,M.R.S.H. Cert. (Meat and Foods)
Housing Inspector	-	M.A. Thomas.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Population:-	(Registrar General's Estimate)	7,620
Number of Parishes:-		8
Acreage:-	According to 1961 census.	46,140 acres
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1962:-		£56,207
Product of a Penny Rate:-	Actual 1961/62	£215.15.4d.
	Actual 1962/63	£220.19.5d.
Rate in the Pound:-	1961/62	£1.4.6d.
	1962/63	£1.8.8d.

Water Rate:- 2/8d. in the £ with a minimum of £1.10.0d. per annum.

Number of Dwellings (including farms):-	2,546
Number of Council Houses (included in above figure):-	408

Crickhowell is a large District in South Breconshire, mainly mountainous in character, with an acreage of 46,140 acres.

The District is divided into eight Parishes, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cwmdu, Llangenny, Llangynidr, Llanbedr and Partrishow, which are mainly agricultural, and Llanelly which is mainly industrial. In the agricultural area the workers are employed mainly in farm work, forestry and quarrying. In the industrial area, the workers are employed mainly in adjacent coalmines in North Monmouthshire, and Elvicta Handtools Factory in Crickhowell. The District also supplies labour to the British Nylon Spinners Ltd., Pontypool, Richard Thomas & Baldwins Ltd., Steelworks, Ebbw Vale, and the Glascoed Ordnance Factory, Usk.

The re-housing of families from unfit dwellings continues together with applicants from the ordinary lists in cases of hardship, illness and overcrowding.

Tenants are selected with the assistance of a Points Scheme adopted by the Council so as to allocate houses to families in the greatest need, conditions of existing accommodation, overcrowding and health circumstances, all rating for "points award".

When Council houses are allocated to applicants their old houses are inspected with a view to their future use being considered. These houses, if they are unfit for human habitation and cannot be repaired at reasonable expense, are then covered by a Demolition Order or Closing Order.

HOUSING - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

		1961 figures.
Unfit dwellings added to the 'unfit' list during the year 1962.	4	13
Unfit houses closed or demolished under the Housing Act, 1957, in the year 1962 (including the dwellings vacated in Crickhowell that were covered by the 1937 Clearance Orders)	6	38
Number of applicants for Council Houses on 1st January, 1962.	151	161
Number of applicants remaining on the Council's list 31st December, 1962.	130	151
Total number of post-war Council Houses 1st January, 1963.	408	404
Number of Council Houses completed during the year 1962.	4	27
Number of Council Houses under construction on 31st December, 1962.	30	4
Number of Private Houses completed during the year 1962.	51	39

School Medical Service, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and the provision of school meals are carried out by the County Council.

The health of the district during the year has been good. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been low as only one case was reported during the year.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling shops, bake-houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice-cream in accordance with the Regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, or under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

No action has been necessary under this Section during the year 1962.

SECTION A.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Crickhowell R.D.C.			Breconshire C. Council.
BIRTHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
No. of legitimate Live Births.	54	71	125	795
No. of illegitimate Live Births.	5	3	8	33
Total Live Births.	59	74	133	828
Birth Rate per 1000 Population 1962.			15.9	
Registrar General's Comparability Factor.			1.11	1.04
No. of Still Births Legitimate.	3	-	3	17
No. of Still Births Illegitimate.	-	-	-	2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births.			6.01	3.98
Total Live and Still Births.	62	74	136	847
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births.			22.05	22.43
DEATHS.				
Total Deaths for District.	48	50	98	784
Crude Death Rate per 1000 of the population.			13.25	14.39
Registrar General's Comparability Factor.			1.03	0.98
Corrected Death Rate.			13.25	14.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY.				
Deaths from Maternal Causes.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Maternal Mortality Rate per	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
1000 Live and Still Births.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

VITAL STATISTICS.
(Continued).

	Crickhowell R.D.C.			Breconshire C. Council.
INFANT MORTALITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age:-				
Legitimate.	2	8	10	22
Illegitimate.	1	-	1	2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births:-				
Total.			82.7	28.98
Legitimate.			80	27.67
Illegitimate.			125	60.60
NEO NATAL MORTALITY.				
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-				
Legitimate.	-	5	5	14
Illegitimate.	1	-	1	1
Total.	1	5	6	15
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births:-			45.11	18.11
EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY.				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age:-				
Legitimate.	-	4	4	13
Illegitimate.	1	-	1	1
Total.	1	4	5	14
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births:-			37.5	16.90
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE.				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age plus No. of Still Births:-				
No. of Deaths under 1 week of age.	1	4	5	14
No. of Still Births.	3	-	3	19
Perinatal Mortality Rate:-			58.8	38.96
CANCER DEATHS.				
No. of Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	3	8	11	112
Cancer Death Rate.			1.44	2.05

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

		Males.	Females.
1.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis (Other Form).	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease.	-	-
4.	Diptheria.	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough.	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections.	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-
8.	Measles.	-	-
9.	Other infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	2
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	-
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	2
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	-	[illegible]
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	1	2
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	-	1
16.	Diabetes.	1	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	7	8
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	11	4
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	2	-
20.	Other heart diseases.	7	8
21.	Other circulatory disease.	-	2
22.	Influenza.	-	-
23.	Pneumonia.	5	4
24.	Bronchitis.	2	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostrate.	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations.	-	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	4	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	2	-
34.	All other accidents.	-	1
35.	Suicide.	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
	ALL CAUSES =	48	50

SECTION B.

PUBLIC ANALYST:	Dr. G.V. James, M.B.E., 69, Dock Street, Newport, Mon. (Newport 63035)
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE:	Dr. H.D. Gray, The Public Health Laboratories, Clytha Square, Newport, Mon. (Newport 65431)
AMBULANCE FACILITIES:	The Breconshire County Council Ambulance stationed at Crickhowell.
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE:	The Clinic is situated at the rear of the old Town Hall, Crickhowell, and is attended by the County Medical Officer of Health and his assistant Medical Officers, and by Nurse J. Silk, the Health Visitor. (Crickhowell 208)
WELFARE:	The District Welfare Officer, Mr. Verley Rees, has an office in Bailey Street, Brynmawr, and also attends at offices in Crickhowell and Gilwern. The Breconshire County Council have facilities for Part III Accommodation under the National Assistance Act at Cockcroft House, Hay, and Crawshay House, Brynmawr. (Brynmawr 254)
ISOLATION HOSPITAL:	Infectious diseases requiring hospitalisation are admitted to Alt-yr-Yn Isolation Hospital, Newport, Mon.

SECTION C.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS. The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year 1962:-

Diseases.	Number of Cases.
Paratyphoid B.	1
Lobar Pneumonia.	1

TUBERCULOSIS. A schedule of new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

New Cases.				Removals from Register.			
Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0

Number of Cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1962.

Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
18	14	32	2	1	3

SCHOOLS. No schools were closed during the year 1962, in consequence of infectious diseases.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The South-East Breconshire Water Board are responsible for the public water supplies in this Council's area.

The Council's area has a piped water supply to all centres of population served mainly from local springs harnessed to small local reservoirs. The supplies to Llangenny, Glangrwyney, Crickhowell (part), Gilwern (part) and Blackrock are chlorinated. These are now sampled regularly by the Water Board, but, as in the past, the bacteriological results vary considerably due to the catchment areas frequently being unfenced agricultural ground. However, the Water Board are actively pursuing their comprehensive scheme to harness their three main sources to a large grid distribution system that will supply an adequate and pure water to all areas, and so dispense with the present local springs which can be doubtful and poor in yield.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLES.

PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

Supply.	Satisfactory.	Slight Contamination.	Heavy Contamination.
Llanbedr.	1	-	-
Crickhowell (Wern)	1	-	-
Crickhowell (Ffynnonau)	-	1	-
Llangattock.	-	-	1
Gilwern (Maesgwartha)	1	-	-
x Gilwern (Hydram)	1	-	-
x Glangrwyney.	-	1	-
Clydach.	1	-	-
x Blackrock.	-	1	-
x Denotes a chlorinated supply.			
PRIVATE SUPPLIES.	1	3	1

The reports on samples of water from the public supplies are forwarded to the South-East Breconshire Water Board for their information and action.

ESTIMATED POPULATION SUPPLIED BY A PUBLIC PIPED WATER SUPPLY.

Estimated total	7,620 (Reg. Gen. estimate for 1962)	This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-gollen Camp.
Estimated population supplied into the houses.	6,537	This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-gollen Camp.
Estimated population supplied by standpipes.	30	
Estimated total population supplied.	6,567	This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-gollen Camp.
Estimated population without a public piped water supply.	1,053	

Parish.	Estimated Total Population.	Estimated Population Supplied.		
		Piped Supply.	Standpipe.	Total.
Crickhowell.	1,458	1,401	Nil	1,401
Cwmdu.	722	381	26	407
Llanbedr.	227	54	Nil	54
Llangynidr.	487	401	Nil	401
Llangattock.	749	614	Nil	614
Llangenny.	650	582	Nil	582 Includes 300 for Cwrt-y-gollen Camp.
Llanelly.	3,259	3,104	4	3,108
Partrishow.	68	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	7,620	6,537	30	6,567

RODENT CONTROL.

A full time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council and he has carried out the following treatments during the year:-

Private Dwellings.....	389
Business Premises.....	20
Schools.....	6
Sewerage Systems.....	Regular Treatment.
Refuse Tips.....	" "
Brooks in Villages.....	" "
Farms in the area surveyed and treated.	

The Report of treatments carried out has been forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Prevention of Damage by Pest Act, 1949.

In spite of farm surveys, and the offer of treatment under Contract, the response has been poor and only fourteen farms were treated continually under Contract. Another two farms were given one single treatment without Contract.

Contracts have also been signed for Cwrt-y-gollen Military Camp, Tymawr School, Tymawr School Farm and Elvicta Handtools Factory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Every effort is being made for progress with the sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for the villages of Bwlch, Tretower, Llangynidr and Clydach. The latter scheme having been approved in principle by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and the calculations have been amended to include for future development at Govilon in the area of the Abergavenny Rural District Council.

The future of the Clydach Scheme is also dependent upon the installation of the proposed water distribution system of the South-East Breconshire Water Board for that area, but the Board have stated that they may have their scheme in operation by 1966.

The small Llanbedr Sewage Works will be commenced in the near future by the Contractors who have recently completed the four Council houses in that village.

The year saw the completion of the extension of the new combined Crickhowell-Llangattock Sewage Works and the abandonment of the two outdated Disposal Works at the Garn and Mill Street with all the sewage from Crickhowell and Llangattock now diverted to the main Circular Pump House, with a new Ejector Pump House dealing with the sewage flow from the floodable area in the lower sections of New Road and Bridge Street.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS.

Regular maintenance and sludge removal, by pumping with the Wickham Towed Diesel Pump, has been carried out at the treatment plants situated at the following Housing Estates:-

Penallt, Penllwyn, Danycoed (3 tanks), St. Michael's Close, Groesffordd and Glasfryn Terrace.

The treatment plants at Glangrwyney and Llangenny are pumped out and the sludge taken away by Contractors' Tanker at three monthly intervals. This was arranged to prevent smell nuisance to occupiers of houses in the locality.

Daily maintenance has been given to the two larger public sewage works at Crickhowell and Gilwern, and to the eleven electrically operated sewage pumps in the area.

The pumps have been given regular inspection by the Insurance Company Inspectors'and their reports have been satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The general scavenging of the area has operated satisfactorily, and during the year the lorry travelled 7,972 miles and carried away 8,477 cubic yards of refuse to the tips at Crickhowell and Gilwern from the premises indicated on the attached schedule.

The present scavenging lorry has given excellent service but another twelve months will bring its useful "life" to an end, and the Council should consider the purchase of a new lorry.

The Monday and Thursday collections of Gilwern, Clydach and Llanelly Hill, totalling approximately 900 dustbins on each of the days, is now too much for a single day's collection and I would recommend consideration be given to this "round" being divided into a single collection weekly i.e. Gilwern on Monday and Clydach and Llanelly Hill on Thursday.

Gilwern refuse tip has had a rough period with the Trunk Road works being carried on along its boundary and entrance, but completion of the new road will tidy up the area with a close boarded boundary fence and entrance gate giving better control against illegal tipping and dumping.

The regular treatment of the tip faces with an insecticide powder, applied by a "blower", continues to give an excellent result in the reduction of any fly or wasp nuisance.

Continuous control of rat infestation is carried out at both Tips.

The 1962 Anti-Litter Campaign was again supported by the Council by the display and issue of anti-litter posters to shops, hotels and schools, and the stationing of more litter baskets and bins in the area.

WEEKLY SCAVENGING SERVICE.

Day.	Parishes.	Mls.	Loads.	Premises. Hses.	Hse & Shop.	Shops.	Pubs.	Farms.	Churs. & Chapels.	Litter Bins.	Other Props.	Total Bins.	Quan. Cu.yds.
Monday.	Llanelly.	33	5	791	23	8	12	10	11	8	18	881	35
Tues.	Crickhowell & Llangattock.	20	5	555	29	6	11	7	5	2	36	651	35
Wed.	Cwmdu. Llangenny. Llanbedr. Llangynidr.	55	4	399	10	-	11	45	12	6	27	510	28
Thurs.	Llanelly.	37	5	873	23	8	13	11	12	8	18	966	35
Friday.	Crickhowell & Llangattock.	21	5	579	29	6	11	14	6	2	36	683	35
	Totals.	166	24	3197	114	28	58	87	46	26	135	3691	168

FOOD AND DRUGS.

FOOD CONDEMNED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED.

The following goods, were on inspection, found to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered:-

23 tins Tomatoes.
20 tins Peaches.
18 tins Meat.
6 tins Beans.
5 tins Salmon.
8 tins Soup.
8 tins Oranges.
4 tins Rice Pudding.
5 tins Fruit Salad.
6 tins Pineapple Juice.
4 tins Apricots.
6 tins Tomato Puree.
6 tins Instant Coffee.
2 tins Pineapples.
5 tins Bourn-Vita.
3 tins Grapefruit.
2 tins Stewed Steak.
1 tin Peas.
1 tin Mixed Vegetables.
1 tin Pilchards.
3 jars Red Pickled Cabbage.
3 jars Cod Liver Oil Extract.
1 jar Pickled Onions.
17 lbs Cooked Ham.
17½lbs Margarine.
25½lbs Butter.
7 lbs Lard.

ICE CREAM.

Thirty seven premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream under the Food and Drugs Act.

The following new registrations were granted during the year:-

Mr. C.J.H. Thomas, Church House, Station Road, Clydach.

Mr. E. Hamer, No.1, Gilwern House, Gilwern.

Mrs. G.M. Gravell, The Shop, Darenfelen, Llanelly Hill.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND KNACKER'S YARD.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses or public abattoirs, within the area of this Authority.

Slaughtering occurs within neighbouring districts where facilities are adequate, and this Council contributes a proportion of the cost of a fully qualified Meat Inspector at Brynmawr Slaughterhouse. The latter premises at present are undergoing extensive improvement and modernisation works.

The Knacker's Yard of Mr. J. Davies, Tredegar, situated at Gilwern, has been regularly inspected and found to be efficiently and hygienically operated with full records maintained.

SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year 1962:-

Detailed house inspections	711
Public Health Acts	556
Food	6
Factories	23
Complaints investigated	84
Scavenging investigations	20
Drainage investigations	296
Water Supply investigations	7

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Housing conditions continue to improve with the installation of modern amenities to old houses with the aid of improvement grants.

In the twelve months covered by this report 27 improvement grants were approved, being 14 Discretionary Grants and 13 Standard Grants.

Standard Grants were introduced in 1959, and following is a comparison of grants approved over the past ten years:-

	Discretionary Grants.	Standard Grants.	Total.
1953	1	-	1
1954	12	-	12
1955	21	-	21
1956	13	-	13
1957	15	-	15
1958	14	-	14
1959	19	2	21
1960	13	1	14
1961	15	5	20
1962	14	13	27

PLANNING AND BYELAW APPLICATIONS.

For the twelve months ending 31st December, 1962, the following applications were received:-

156 Applications for Building Byelaw approval.
161 Applications for Planning Approval.

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal.		Statutory.	
Served.	Complied with.	Served.	Complied with.
17	14	1	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Details of the routine inspection at the twenty factories in the area are contained on separate Ministry forms.

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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
RECEIVED
- 2 SEP 1963
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